

PEACE HOPE HIT BUT NOT KILLED

Outlook for Termination of War Dark—Official Washington Pessimistic.

Hope for peace in Europe was last night badly shattered, but not utterly destroyed, by Germany's flat refusal to satisfy President Wilson's demand for peace terms.

On the surface of the troubled diplomatic seas the outlook for peace was black, but administration officials strated their eyes to discern some ray of light in the situation. There were two differing views of the effect of the German note on the neutral efforts toward peace.

Administration officials, while refusing to discuss the possibility of peace, were clearly pessimistic. They took the view that Germany, by insisting on her demand for an "immediate meeting of the belligerent states," had rejected the President's proposal that both groups of belligerents set forth their peace terms.

Would ignore Wilson. This, the State Department believes, takes the entire matter out of the President's hands, at least so far as further initiative efforts are concerned. It places squarely before the entente powers Germany's insistence on an untrammelled consideration of terms in conference. Neutral diplomatic circles did not entirely share the pessimism of the administration. They believed that Germany's note would not halt the concerted action among the neutral nations in indorsement of the President's peace program, and they insisted that all hope for peace should not be abandoned until all of the pressure of concerted neutral action had been brought to bear. Several neutral representatives here declared that Germany in her note "went as far as she could," and asserted that the peace move would be continued.

Pin Hopes on Two Points. There were two possible lines of diplomatic development to which the peace advocates, with the President at their head, pinned their hopes.

The vague and unlikely possibility that the entente powers would not flatly reject Germany's suggestion in her note of yesterday to the United States that a peace conference be called immediately. The positive attitude of the entente powers as outlined by Premier Lloyd George's recent speech to the British Parliament and the apparent unanimity of Great Britain's allies in the determination to continue the war made this hope a tenuous one.

The possibility that Germany, despite her formal refusal in yesterday's note, might by informal communication place in the hands of the United States a statement of peace terms, to be kept secret until a similar statement is forthcoming from the entente powers. This course of procedure would drag out the negotiations interminably.

SPAIN MAY BID FOR PEACE CONFERENCES

Will Extend Invitation to Belligerents, Is European Belief.

(By the International News Service.) Amsterdam, Dec. 26.—Germany's answer to President Wilson's note, made public today, is nothing short of a hint for an invitation from a neutral country to all the belligerents to send delegates to a neutral capital for an informal or formal conference at which the peace terms may be discussed. The hint is discussed in this paragraph of the central powers' reply:

"It (the imperial government) begs, therefore, in the sense of the declaration made on December 12, which offered a hand for peace negotiations, to propose an immediate meeting of delegates of the belligerent states at a neutral place."

The central powers are opposed to mediation. That was made clear a few days ago by Baron von Dam Busehe-Madenhausen, the new under secretary for foreign affairs, when in a semi-official interview he stated that the bringing about of peace was solely the affair of the belligerents. Information from an absolutely trustworthy source indicates that Spain is about to extend an invitation for the holding of a conference. It is pointed out that the Spanish government has deliberately held aloof from all previous official and unofficial exchanges of views regarding the peace, awaiting a suggestion from either side. This is now offered in today's note from the central powers, it is argued.

MADERO ESTATE APPRAISED.

New York, Dec. 26.—Francisco Madero, father of former President Francisco I. Madero, of Mexico, left an estate in New York City appraised at \$2,578,000. Mrs. Mercedes Madero, widow, received \$7,540, and the balance was divided among eight sons and three daughters.

No indication as to the value of the estate outside New York State is contained in the report of the appraiser, filed today. Madero died in this city on September 3 last.

PARTY TO MRS. BEUTINGER.

Caldwell, N. J., Dec. 26.—Twenty-two unannounced Santa Clauses all in a bunch, visited the home of Mrs. Clara Beutinger and her five little youngsters, and they're all mighty happy today, including the Santa Clauses.

The Kris Kringle were the twenty-two of the twenty-four jurors who voted to acquit Mrs. Beutinger of the murder of her husband at her two recent trials. The party was as much of a surprise to Mrs. Beutinger as it was to the children.

LUMINOUS HATS LATEST.

London, Dec. 26.—Luminous hats for men and women have been introduced in London for wear in the darkened streets at night. It is hoped in this way to reduce street accidents, of which there were 24,875 in the first nine months of this year, 24,677 were fatal. Some streets are kept in total darkness at night to escape the Zeppelin menace, while others are dimly lighted. The hats are treated with a chemical mixture to make them shine in the darkness.

WHAT WILSON'S NOTE PROPOSED:

President Wilson's note was dispatched to belligerent nations December 18.

It suggested immediate opportunity for comparison of views as to terms to precede ultimate arrangements for world peace.

Note did not propose peace, but merely that soundings be taken.

WHAT THE GERMAN REPLY SAYS:

German answer was delivered December 26.

Contains no terms, but renewed proposal of imperial chancellor that delegates of warring powers meet at once at some neutral place for peace negotiations.

States further that work of bringing about prevention of future wars cannot be undertaken until end of present conflict.

NO PEACE TERMS

Germany, in Reply to U. S., Urges Immediate Parley.

(By the International News Service.) Berlin (via Sayville wireless), Dec. 26.—The reply of the German allies to the peace note of President Wilson was given today. It failed to name any peace terms.

The reply states that the imperial government considered President Wilson's note in a friendly manner, but that "in the opinion of the German government, that great work—the prevention of future wars—can be begun only after the end of the present struggle."

When the time comes, says the answer, the German government will be ready with pleasure to collaborate with the United States.

The reply renews the offer made by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg on December 12 to enter immediately into peace negotiations.

The text of the answer follows: "The high-minded suggestion made by the President of the United States of America in order to create a basis for the establishment of a lasting peace has been received and considered by the imperial government in the friendly spirit expressed in the President's communication."

"The President points out that which brings us heart and leaves open the choice of the road."

"To the imperial government an immediate exchange of views seems the most appropriate road in order to reach the desired result."

"It therefore begs, in the sense of the declaration made on December 12, which offered the hand for peace negotiations, to propose immediately a meeting of the belligerent states at some neutral place."

"Also, the imperial government is of the opinion that the great work of prevention of future wars can be begun only after the present struggle of nations. It will, when this moment shall have come, be ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States at this exalted task."

BRITISH MINISTERS TO DISCUSS PEACE

Colonial Premiers Receive Call for Big Conference.

(By the International News Service.) London, Dec. 26.—England is ready to discuss peace terms—with its colonial prime ministers.

The first ray of hope that Great Britain is not flatly turning down the German proposal of peace came today in the form of an official announcement that some time in the immediate future, not later than February 1, the war council will hold conferences to which the prime minister of each dominion is invited to consider urgent questions affecting the prosecution of the war and the possible conditions on which, in agreement with the British government, we would assent to its termination.

The statement adds: "Other problems would then immediately arise."

It was further officially explained that the meeting of the war cabinet, which Premier Lloyd George announced the other day, will be a "special war conference of the whole empire."

In well-informed quarters it was suggested that this announcement is closely connected with the German peace note of December 18, in other words, that Great Britain may use this as the most feasible way to evade a direct answer to the central powers' offer without appearing in the light of deliberately and stubbornly continuing the war regardless of what her enemies may have to propose.

It is further suggested that England may now quite properly send word to the central powers through the United States that no action can be taken until the prime ministers of the British colonies have been consulted on the subject.

The announcement which puts this sudden complexity upon whole matter of peace was issued on the authority of the secretary of state for the colonies.

2,000 STUDENTS STRIKE.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 26.—Because they were refused the usual Christmas holidays, two thousand students of Central and Technical high schools struck here today and refused to attend classes. The students marched on mass to the local newspaper offices, gave their yells and departed for their homes, declaring they would not attend classes until Monday.

ASQUITH'S DAUGHTER TO WED.

London, Dec. 26.—Announcement of the engagement of Elizabeth Asquith, daughter of the former premier, to Hugh S. Gibson, first secretary to the United States Embassy, was printed today.

A dispatch to the International News Service from London several days ago reported that this engagement was expected.

TEUTONS GAINING IN SERETH DRIVE

Take Village of Filipesci. Battle-Line Stretches for 500 Miles.

At the point of the bayonet, Teuton troops belonging to Field Marshal von Mackensen's center in the new offensive against the Sereth line, yesterday stormed the strongly-fortified village of Filipesci, on the railway from Buzeu to Braila.

In this sector and in violent battles south of Rimnicu-Sarat, north of Beseu, 5,500 Russians were taken prisoners, the Berlin war office announced. A supplementary bulletin issued last night announced the ejection of Russian forces from a series of strong positions.

The great battle which was ushered in Christmas morning continues to rage without abatement. During the last twenty-four hours the Teuton attacking front has been extended to the region south-east of Lemberg. Thus on a battle line of nearly 500 miles, from the heart of Galicia to the Black Sea, the Teutons are now covering the Russian lines with a steady hail of shells.

The immediate prize coveted by the attackers before they can seriously think of starting the long heralded drive for Odessa is the full control of the Lemberg-Cernowitz-Galatz Railway. With that line in their hands, the whole Sereth line would fall automatically.

The fighting which preceded the occupation of Filipesci was of the fiercest character. Not until the battered village flared up in flames as a result of the ceaseless avalanche of shells did the Russians abandon it. The German report concedes it was "tenaciously defended."

In the valley of the Kasno (Casin) River, west of the middle Sereth, the Rumanians struck back during the last thirty-six hours and recaptured one of the heights lost in Sunday's battle.

In the region of Rimnicu-Sarat, Petrograd admits the Russian line was pressed back, while farther east the Teuton assaults were beaten off with heavy losses to the attackers.

The fall of Rimnicu-Sarat is believed imminent, that is that of Braila.

With an intense artillery fire, the Russian war office says, "the Teutons are battering the Russian lines south of Brassy, forty-six miles from Lemberg."

GREEK STEAMER SEIZED BY BRITISH, IS REPORT

Patris Commandeered at Gibraltar, Shipping Circles Hear.

(By the International News Service.) New York, Dec. 26.—A report was circulated in shipping circles tonight that the Greek steamer Patris had been commandeered by the British authorities at Gibraltar. The Patris has been overdue in this port several days.

She left Piraeus on November 25 for this city and arrived at Gibraltar December 4. This was about the time the British and French blockade order against Greece went into effect. The Patris had on board more than 1,000 passengers.

At the offices of the Greek line, N. A. Galanos, local agent, said: "As far as we know the Patris is held up in Gibraltar by the British officials. She has on board 1,000 passengers. I do not put much credence in the report that she has been commandeered, because of the strained relations existing between Greece and England at the present time."

HEIRESSSES ASK COURT FOR \$1,200,000 INCOME

Daughters of Kohler, Piano Manufacturer, Request Distribution.

(By the International News Service.) New York, Dec. 26.—Rita and Rita Kohler, 15 and 14 years old, respectively, today joined their sister, Mrs. Nila Florman, in her petition for immediate distribution of a \$1,200,000 accumulation of income. The estate left by their father, Charles M. Kohler, piano manufacturer, is piling up at the rate of about \$700,000 a year.

Under his will, each of the daughters and their mother, Mrs. Veronica Kohler, are receiving \$25,000 each for living expenses annually. Mrs. Florman, who is 22, insists that her \$25,000 a year is not sufficient to keep her out of debt. She asks for \$500,000 now from the \$1,200,000 surplus. This money set aside in excess of that alleged to be needed for the trust funds.

Vera and Rita Kohler reside with their mother. In joining their sister as petitioners, they assert the income from the estate amounts to about \$600,000 more than is needed each year for payment of the annuities.

"DEATH CROSSING" CLAIMS 3.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.—"Death Crossing" claimed three more victims late yesterday, when Nichell Romano and his sister, Victoria, and her fiancé, Leno Clor, were killed at Ford street, Norris town.

The party was returning in a wagon from the home of a friend with whom they had spent Christmas. The tragedy was caused because the watchman at the crossing had left his post.

THREE HELD IN MURDER CASE.

Penns Grove, N. J., Dec. 26.—A woman, and two men are under arrest today in connection with the murder of Joseph J. Wescott, of Macaburg, Va., a guard at the Carney's Point plant of the Du Pont Powder Company, whose body was found Sunday afternoon on Sevie Farm, about a mile and a half southeast of Penns Grove.

Kimballton, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Five persons were killed and twelve others injured when the gas-lighting plant exploded at the home of John Saaborg, a farmer living near Kimballton, during a Christmas family reunion.

MRS. RALPH TOWNSEND DEAD.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Ralph M. Townsend, widely known in society, and one of Philadelphia's most beautiful women, died of pneumonia today at her home here. Mr. Townsend is in the University Hospital recovering from pneumonia and pleurisy.

Japan to Scorn Peace Until Allies Conquer

(By the International News Service.) Tokyo, Dec. 26.—Newspaper comment today indicates that the reply of the allies to President Wilson's note will be marked by the following characteristics:

1. It will be courteous but firm in tone.

2. It will reiterate the principles contained in the speech of Premier Lloyd George in the British Parliament one week ago today.

3. It will reaffirm the solidarity of the entente.

Japan is in full accord with her allies in the determination to continue the war until Germany asks for peace terms not as a victor but as the vanquished.

GREAT TREAT NEAR

1,500 Poor Children Going to the Belasco Tomorrow.

Eyes agleam in anticipation of a treat which comes seldom in their lives of poverty, 1,500 children of Washington are eagerly watching the clock for the mystic hour of 10 tomorrow morning, when the opening scenes from the film spectacle, "A Daughter of the Gods," will be flashed before them at the Belasco Theater. The doors will be opened promptly at 9:30 o'clock.

The wonderful movie will be doubly appreciated by these "kiddies" because of the rarity of the occasion. Picture shows are few and far between in their lives. The necessary nickel or dime is far too precious in their environment to be spent upon amusement.

And to have an opportunity of witnessing this wonderful picture, which is far ahead of the usual program to be seen at the screen houses, has brightened many homes in the Capital and temporarily driven thoughts of sadness and want into the background.

The cause of the happiness of L. Stoddard Taylor, manager of the Belasco Theater. Mr. Taylor, a few days ago, after noting the delight of children who had waited in the lobby for the show, conceived the idea of giving those of the city who were unable financially to see the Kellerman film, an opportunity of viewing it without cost.

He wired to the William Fox Company in New York and obtained its permission for a free showing of the picture.

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Telegraph Tips

Rome, Dec. 26.—Eighteen-year-old reservists have been ordered to report to the colors by beginning January 1. Two thousand five hundred ammunition factories are running night and day. Despite peace talk Italy is preparing to prosecute the war more vigorously than ever.

Grand Rapids, Dec. 26.—Bishop Henry J. Richter, of the diocese of Grand Rapids, died this afternoon of pneumonia.

Potomac, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Gen. Edwin A. Merritt, formerly American consul general at London, and later collector of the port of New York, died at his home here today. He was 82 years old.

London, Dec. 26.—A news agency dispatch from Melbourne says that the interest rate upon the new \$90,000,000 Australian war loan will be 4-1/2 per cent. Subscriptions will close on January 1, 1917.

Paris, Dec. 26.—Howard B. Lines, Harvard graduate, who was serving with the American ambulance corps, died at the front of pneumonia brought on by exposure, according to word received today by his father, Dr. E. H. Lines.

Redding, Cal., Dec. 26.—Thick black smoke today is pouring from the crater of Lassen peak, which has been erupting at intervals since 1914. The smoke has been whipped into a halo around the top of the peak as a result of the wind.

New York, Dec. 26.—Two men were dead today and several others seriously burned as a result of a fire during a Christmas celebration at the home of Oliver Edwards, upholstering Buckley, 31 log exploded, engulfing Buckley, 31 and setting fire to the home. Frank H. Welch, a guest, was burned to death. The home was destroyed at a loss of \$10,000.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—Gov. Gen. von Beseler, of Poland, has signed a decree establishing a Polish state credit bank. Currency will be issued and guaranteed by the German government.

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 26.—With a cord taken from another man's Christmas package, Gust Nelson, 55 years old, hanged himself in the lobby of a hotel here, while five men stood by waiting for the police to arrive.

Tonopah, Nev., Dec. 26.—Every town in Southern Nevada, which depends upon electricity for lighting, has been dark since Sunday, due to a break in the power lines crossing the White Mountains.

Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y., Dec. 26.—The board of education will meet on January 1 to take up the alleged stabbing of one student in the high school by another shortly before the holidays.

Detroit, Dec. 26.—With the arrival here of the steamship Huron, of the Wyandotte Transportation Company, the last of the late navigating freighters of the Great Lakes is safely in port.

Kimballton, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Five persons were killed and twelve others injured when the gas-lighting plant exploded at the home of John Saaborg, a farmer living near Kimballton, during a Christmas family reunion.

SKATERS ESCAPE WOLVES.

Standish, Mich., Dec. 26.—Three trappers, Charles Leonard, George Weston and Bert Parker, reached here yesterday from a hunting trip in the Lake Superior region and told of a race for life with a wolf pack on returning from their traps last week.

The men were on skates three miles from the nearest cabin when the wolves appeared. One of the trappers fired his rifle when the pack approached them and the wolves quickly store one of their wounded members to pieces, giving the hunters time for a start.

Several times when the wolves were nearly on them this was repeated, the men said, until they finally escaped.

FEAR FOR SAFETY OF SINKING SHIP

Nothing Heard from Steamer Maryland Since S O S Sunday Midnight.

(By the International News Service.) New York, Dec. 26.—Grave fears for the safety of the American tank steamer, Maryland and her crew of thirty-four were expressed by revenue cutter officials tonight. No word has been received from her since midnight Sunday when she sent out a S O S call and added she was sinking.

According to latest reports, two revenue cutters and the steamer City of Savannah were rushing to the assistance of the distressed vessel. None of them will reach the position given by the Maryland until dawn tomorrow. Whether the Maryland can last until that time is not known, owing to the apparent failure of her wireless.

The last wireless was sent by the coast guard cutter Mohawk, which summed up the situation as follows:

"S. S. Maryland reports sinking latitude, 38; longitude, 67; 300 miles away. City of Savannah, we learn by wireless, is nearer, being 200 miles from Maryland. Cutter Gresham is 100 miles nearer, than Mohawk. Await instructions."

From this it is apparent that the Gresham is nearest the sinking steamer. Racing at full speed, it would take her at least fourteen hours to reach the position given. In the heavy seas reported in that locality it would probably take longer. The Mohawk's message does not say what time the Gresham started out.

The identity of the Maryland was clearly established today. She was formerly engaged in the Great Lakes traffic and went to Philadelphia last September. She is commandeered for the trans-Atlantic trade.

She was built at Wyandotte, Mich., in 1890 and has a net tonnage of 1,922. She is 315 feet long, forty-two feet beam, and has a depth of twenty feet. She is owned by a Philadelphia company and was in command by Capt. Hayford. On the present trip she carried a cargo of pipe, lubricating oil, syrup, canned tomatoes and iron.

ONE KILLED, MANY HURT IN YULETIDE GUN FIGHT

Riot Starts at Christmas Exercises When Disturber Is Reprimanded.

(By the International News Service.) Lexington, Ky., Dec. 26.—One man was killed, four others were seriously wounded and a dozen others suffered minor injuries in a gun fight staged in a mountain schoolhouse where a Christmas celebration was in progress. Persons arriving here today from the Danville district brought first word of the battle.

William Benedict, sr., was instantly killed. His son, William, George Thornton, Bourbon Galloway, and Michael Cadogan were seriously wounded. The shooting started when Benedict reprimanded Tom Thornton for causing a disturbance while the school children were giving their exercises. Enraged, his brother, George, fired a shot and immediately the place was in uproar. Women and children escaped by the windows. Many suffered minor injuries.

PRESIDENT'S ESCORT NAMED FOR PARADE

Honor in Inaugural Line Goes to Troop B, Squadron A.

Troop B of Squadron A, cavalry, will be the President's escort, according to its officers. Last night's meeting of the troop at the L Street Armory brought out sixty-eight men who have signed up for service. There were grave doubts as to whether or not the assembly was to take place, as the drill practice was to continue until the last moment, so that perfection will be the byword of Troop B when they parade on Inauguration Day.

The matter of procuring dress uniforms was discussed and steps will be taken next week to buy the best of the dress uniforms. Maj. Herron addressed the men on general military topics. He impressed them with the need of efficiency and urged them to be very effort toward placing Troop B at the top notch of military efficiency. He is now the captain of Troop B.

SKATERS ESCAPE WOLVES.

SEEK CLUE IN BOMB PLOT.

PHONE CALL SAVES LIFE.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—"I am very ill. Get 303" was the message faintly heard over the telephone by Miss Margaret Carney, a telephone operator early today. Miss Carney notified neighbors, sent a physician to the house, and saved the life of Mrs. Amelia Oster, taken desperately ill. Then she called number 303 on every exchange in the city until she found the place where Mrs. Oster's son was working and sent him home.

STEAMER MINUS FUEL FIGHTS SEA 3 WEEKS

Furniture, Hatch Covers and Bedding Fed Fires to Keep Ship off Rocks.

(By the International News Service.) Woods Hole, Mass., Dec. 26.—Without fuel for three weeks while battered about in the Atlantic was the experience of the Norwegian steamer Thorgerd, identified today after she had been sending distress signals all day from a perilous position off Gayhead, Martha's Vineyard.

The Thorgerd's coal supply was exhausted several days after she left Quebec for New York.

Her crew, seven in all, were every available stick on the steamer was burned to keep her boilers going. In the howling norther that raked Cape Cod last night the Thorgerd's position was so precarious that her crew fed the fires with bedding in their efforts to keep her from being driven on the rocks and reefs.

For hours today it seemed as if the fight must end in the destruction of the steamer and the loss of her men, but, braving a sixty-knot wind and mountainous seas, Samuel J. Anthony and six life savers picked their power boat to the distressed steamer, boarded her, learned the story, and sent word that brought a tow which will take her to the nearest port.

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SEEK CLUE IN BOMB PLOT.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 26.—Local authorities today are seeking a clue to the persons who placed a bomb under the corner of the residence of Gov. William Spry. Only a snow storm which thoroughly soaked the bomb prevented its explosion.

MAIL LATE; PRISONERS WAIT.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 26.—Because of the congestion of the Christmas mails, two prisoners in the Eastern penitentiary—convicts 422 and 427—were expecting their pardons to arrive today.

Six weeks ago the convicts, in anticipation of their release, began planning what they would do on Christmas, but the mails forced them to spend the holiday in the penitentiary.

Allied Warship Fleet Off American Shores

Special to The Washington Herald.

Boston, Dec. 26.—The presence on this side of the Atlantic of a formidable fleet of allied warships was indicated definitely today.

The vessels are known officially as commerce protectors. They are heavily armed and disguised.

For obvious reasons their exact disposition is not revealed. But the arrival recently in American waters of this newest unit of the British and French admiralties was made known from a source that hardly can be mistaken.

For some days vessel captains have been bringing to New England ports reports of mysterious craft that were making their way westward. They made no reply to signals and could not be approached.

COAL EMBARGO OFF

L. C. C. Suspends Proposed Rate Increase Until May 1.

The Board of Trade won the first point in its fight against an advance in railroad rates for coal shipments from the New River coal regions to Washington when the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday ordered a suspension of the proposed increase until May 1.

The suspension order will help to make it possible for local coal dealers to keep prices at normal and defer the 50 cents a ton increase being put into effect in other cities. Special Assistant Attorney General R. W. Childs for the Department of Justice, in conducting the inquiry in Chicago, He questioned several dealers yesterday about the increase.

Attorneys for the Board of Trade will now file extended arguments against the advance from \$1.15 to \$1.45 per ton and a hearing will be given later by the Commission.

In the application for a suspension order, it was stated that the arguments for the increased rates were contrary to previous decisions of the Commission. The Chesapeake & Ohio and the Washington Southern railroads are affected by the changes.

The companies, in their request for authority to raise the rates January 1, set forth that they were unable to agree on an equitable division of the revenues from such shipments. They asked for higher rates, ranging from 14 cents to 24 cents per ton, on shipments from Kanawha and the New River coal fields.

District Commissioner Louis Brownlow said that the District had been obliged to go into the open market for 1,900 tons of coal.

The Orenda Coal Company, of Baltimore, and the J. P. Agnew Company, of this city, contracted last July to afford the supply. Three times since there has been a fuel famine.

Bids for the latest consignments will be opened at the District Building tomorrow. Inability to get the amount required to fulfill the contract, due to a shortage of coal cars, is assigned by the contractor for his failure to furnish the fuel required now.

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